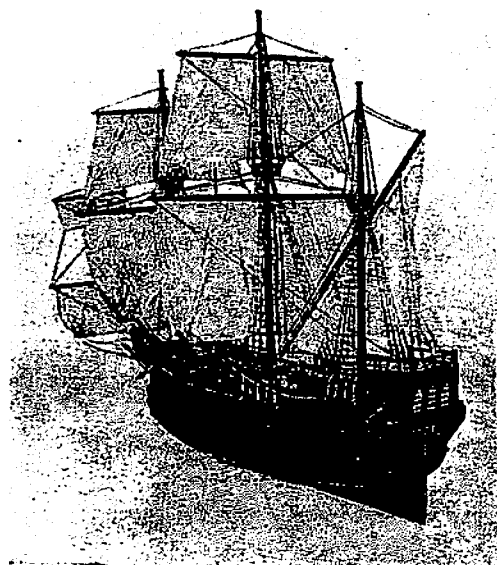


## The Mayflower



A Ship of the Period of the Mayflower and of her approximate class and rig  
(A model in the Commercial Museum, Philadelphia)  
Length, 100 ft.; breadth, 24 ft.; depth, 14 ft.; draught, 12 ft. 3 in.  
Passengers, 102; Officers and crew, about 30. Voyage, Plymouth (Eng.) to Cape Cod, 67 days.

Let it not be grievous to you, that you have been instruments to break the ice for others. The honour shall be yours to the world's end.

—From a letter from England to the Pilgrims at Plymouth

Out of small beginnings great things have been produced; and as one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone to many, yea, in some sort to our whole nation.

—Governor Bradford

1620—1920

Wilfred Schoff wishes you a very Happy New Year

## The Mayflower Compact in the handwriting of Governor Bradford

In the name of god amen. We whose names are underwritten,  
the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign Lord King James  
by the grace of god, of great Brittain, France, & Ireland King,  
Defender of the faith, &c.  
Having undertaken, for the glory of god, and advancements  
of Christian faith, and honour of our King & country, a voyage to  
plant a first Colonic in the Northern parts of Virginia. Do by  
these presents solemnly & mutually in the presence of god, and  
one of another, Covenant & combine our selves together into a  
Civil body politick, for our better ordering & preservation & furtherance  
of the ends aforesaid, and by virtue hereof to enacte,  
constitute, and frame such just & equall laws, ordinances,  
acts, constitutions, & offices from time to time, as shall be thought  
most meete & convenient for the general good of the Colonic. Unto  
which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness  
whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape-  
cod the 11. of November in the year of the reign of our sovereign  
Lord King James of England, France & Ireland the eighteenth,  
and of Scotland the fiftie fourth. Anno Domini 1620.

John Robinson (perhaps the son of Rev. John Robinson, D.D., of Lincoln), Corpus Christi College, Cambridge: B.A. Feb. 25, 1595/6, admitted Fellow Mar. 27, 1597, M.A. Mar. 28, 1599. Appears in the Register 1602, as 'John Robinson of Nottinghamshire, A.M. and Priest'. Vicar of St. Andrew's, Norwich, about 1604-1607. Minister to an independent congregation at Scrooby, 1607-1608; with whom to escape persecution and imprisonment he fled to Holland, settling at Amsterdam 1608, and removing to Leyden 1609. Thence at his prompting, in 1620, went forth the Pilgrim Fathers to settle New England. Prevented by an unfriendly government from accompanying his flock to the New World, he continued with the remainder at Leyden, where he died in 1625, and was buried in St. Peter's Church.

In memoriam aeternam erit justus.

## Political Counsel

*We are knite togeather as a body in a most stricte & sacred bond and covenante of the Lord, of the violation wherof we make great conscience, and by vertue wherof we doe hould our selves straitly tied to all care of each others good, and of ye whole by every one and so mutually.*

—From letter of John Robinson and William Brewster to the Virginia Company in London: Leyden, December 15, 1617

*Lastly, wheras you are become a body politik, using amongst your selves civill govermente, and are not furnished with any persons of spetiall eminencie above ye rest, to be chosen by you into office of goverment, let your wisdom & godlines appeare, not only in chusing shuch persons as doe entirely love and will promote ye commonne good, but also in yeelding unto them all due honour & obedience in their lawfull administrations; not behoulding in them ye ordinarinesse of their persons, but Gods ordinance for your good, not being like ye foolish multitud who more honour ye gay coate, then either ye vertuous minde of ye man, or glorious ordinance of ye Lord. But you know better things, & that ye image of ye Lords power & authoritie which ye magistrate beareth, is honourable, in how meane persons soever. And this dutie you both may ye more willingly and ought ye more conscionably to performe, because you are at least for ye present to have only them for your ordinarie governours, which your selves shall make choyse of for that worke.*

—From John Robinson's farewell letter to the Mayflower Pilgrims: Leyden, July 27, 1620

## Social Experience

*The experience that was had in this commonne course and condition, tried sundrie years, and that amongst godly and sober men, may well evince the vanitie of that conceite of Platos & other ancients, applauded by some of later times;—that ye taking away of propertie, and bringing in communitie into a comone wealth, would make them happy and flourishing; as if they were wiser then God. For this comunitie (so farr as it was) was found to breed much confusion & discontent, and retard much imployment that would have been to their benefite and comforte. For ye yong-men that were most able and fitte for labour & service did repine that they should spend their time & streingth to worke for other mens wives and children, with out any recompence. The strong, or man of parts, had no more in devisiion of victails & cloaths, then he that was weake and not able to doe a quarter ye other could; this was thought injustice. The aged and graver men to be ranked and equalised in labours, and victails, cloaths, &c., with ye meaner & yonger sorte, thought it some indignite & disrespect unto them. And for mens wives to be commanded to doe servise for other men, as dressing their meate, washing their cloaths, &c., they deemed it a kind of slaverie, neither could many husbands well brooke it. Upon ye poynte all being to have alike, and all to doe alike, they thought them selves in ye like condition, and one as good as another; and so, if it did not cut of those relations that God hath set amongst men, yet it did at least much diminish and take of ye mutuall respects that should be preserved amonst them. And would have bene worse if they had been men of another condition. Let none objecte this is men's corruption, and nothing to ye course it selfe. I answer, seeing all men have this corruption in them, God in his wisdom saw another course fiter for them.*

—From Governor William Bradford's History "Of Plimoth Plantation" Anno 1623